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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/735,765	12/16/2003	Kazuyuki Ikeda	36856.1175	3371

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Keating & Bennett LLP
Suite 312
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Fairfax, VA 22030

EXAMINER

EASTHOM, KARL D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2832

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/735,765

Applicant(s)

IKEDA, KAZUYUKI

Examiner

Karl D Easthom

Art Unit

2832

pw

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2/16/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

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1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-2, 4 and 7-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Toshiyuki et al. (JP '512 by applicant). Toshiyuki disclose the claimed invention at Figs. 2 and 6-7 where there is a substrate 1, contact 5, arm 9a, disk section 10, driver plate 6, with step the recess in 6 above 9. (The step is also opposite portion 6a in the driver 6 and the section line 7 bisects 6a and 7 at Fig. 6). This recess meets claim 2. The terminals of claim 4 are 3. For claim 7, the driver has a cross shaped hole. For claims 8-11, see fig. 9. For claims 12-13, see the eyelet at Fig. 8. For claim 14, see 9a at Fig. 5.

3. Claims 1 and 3-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Doi. Doi discloses the claimed invention at Figs. 2, 5 and 8 with substrate 1, contact 6, arm 6d, disk 6c, driver plate 6a, and step the recess in 6 at Fig. 5 where the lower part of 6 between 6a and 6c is stepped forming a gap between the driver plate 6a and arm 6d. For claim 4, see col. 3, lines 45-55. The terminals and resistor of claims 4-6 are 2a, 3a are 3 with noble metal plating and carbon at col. 4, lines 3-33. For claim 7, the driver has a cross shaped hole. For claims 8-11, see fig. 10. For claim 8, 6d is semicircular shaped. For claims 12-13, see the eyelet at Fig. 2. For claim 14, see 6d at Fig. 5.

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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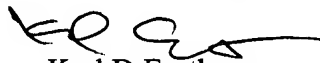
(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Doi or Toshiyuki et al. (JP '512 by applicant), in view of Masuda et al. '841. The claimed invention is disclosed as noted above except the ceramic substrate and cermet resistor. Masuda discloses at col. 1, lines 35-40, and col. 3, lines 35-55, use of a ceramic substrate to replace polymer substrates to alleviate problems of polymer flow and discloses using cermets as a substitutes for carbon resistors, while Doi discloses using carbon or other replacements for a resistor, so that it would have been obvious to employ the common materials in order to make a resistor without the problems of polymer overflow.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Karl D Easthom whose telephone number is (571) 272-1989. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 5:30AM-4:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on (571) 272-1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Karl D Easthom
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2832